

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DOHA 00909 101234Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02
OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-07 CEA-01 /099 W
-----072159 102325Z /75

R 101156Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY DOHA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3811
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
USINT BAGHDAD
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
MAQMAM/AMEMBASSY MANAMA 1502
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
USLO RIYADH
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, EFIN, BEXP, QA
SUBJECT: GOQ (GOVT OF QATAR) OFFICIALS COMPLAIN THAT U.S. INCOME
TAX LAW IS HURTING GOQ EFFORTS TO HIRE AMERICANS AND
INCREASE TRADE

1. (UNCLAS) RECENT CONTACTS WITH OFFICIALS IN A NUMBER OF MINISTRIES
IN GOQ INDICATE THAT U.S. PERSONAL INCOME TAX LAWS HAVE BECOME
TOPIC OF CONVERSATION AMONG GOQ OFFICIALS. OFFICIALS IN MINISTRIES
OF FINANCE AND PETROLEUM, INFORMATION, PUBLIC HEALTH, PUBLIC WORKS,
MUNICIPALITIES, COMMUNICATIONS, AND INTERIOR, AS WELL AS IN AMIR'S
OFFICE, HAVE COMPLAINED TO EMBOFFS IN LAST TWO WEEKS THAT EHY
HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO RECURIT AMERICAN EXPERTS TO WORK IN THEIR
MINISTRIES DUE TO UNCERTAINTIES ABOUT U.S. INCOME TAX LAWS.

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SEVERAL ALSO TOLD COMOFF THAT U.S. FIRMS WERE REFUSING TO BID ON
CONTRACTS, CITING UNCERTAINTIES ABOUT U. S. INCOME TAX LAWS AS
REASON FOR BEING UNABLE TO GIVE FIRM PRICES. WORDING AND CONTEXT
OF COMPLAINTS IS SIMILAR ENOUGH TO PRECLUDE ANY POSSIBILITY OTHER
THAN THAT DISUCSSIONS OF THE PROBLEM HAVE TAKEN PLACE AT HIGH
LEVEL IN GOQ. (END UNCLAS)

2. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) WE HAVE HEARD BEFORE SOME OF THE ARGUMENTS ADVANCED BY COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES AND BY INDIVIDUAL AMERICAN EMPLOYEES. A NEW TWIST WAS ADDED, MAINLY BY PALESTINIAN EXPATRIATES IN HIGH POSITIONS IN SOME GOV. MINISTRIES WHO SEE THE 1976 TAX LAW AS YET ANOTHER "SINISTER ZIONIST PLOT" AIMED AT DESTROYING U.S. TRADE WITH ARAB COUNTRIES. EMBASSIES HAVE DENIED THIS. COOLER HEADS AMONG GOV. OFFICIALS POINT OUT THAT, AT VERY LEAST, U.S. IS PUTTING FURTHER OBSTACLES IN WAY OF TRADE AND DAMAGING U.S. COMPETITIVE POSITION. ALL RECOGNIZE THAT HAVING U.S. CITIZEN EMPLOYEES IN THEIR MINISTRIES WOULD FAVORABLY AFFECT U.S. TRANSACTIONS WITH GOV. AND THAT INABILITY TO RECRUIT U.S. CITIZENS HAS ADVERSE EFFECTS.

JABBOUR

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TAX LAW, FOREIGN WORKERS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
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TAGS: ELAB, EFIN, BEXP, QA
To: STATE
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